

The Romulus News

DECEMBER 16, 1993 – DECEMBER 29, 1993

"the little paper"

VOLUME 7 NUMBER 11

Timely Tidbits ...

Mayor Declines To Reappoint Police Chief

Fred Dansby, who has served as chief of the Romulus Police Department for the last four years, has failed to earn reappointment to his position by Mayor Beverly McAnally.

Asked why she chose not to renew his appointment, McAnally declined to comment, saying that her refusal to discuss the matter "was in the best interests of all concerned."

Serving as acting Police Chief until Dansby's successor is named will be Lieutenant Robert Brown.

New 34th District Court Administrator Named

Chief Judge William J. Szlinis of the 34th District Court recently announced the appointment of Michael W. Ramsey as the Court's Administrator.

Ramsey has 20 years of experience in Michigan's District Court system, serving in a number of positions at the 54-A District Court in Lansing, as Deputy Court Administrator at the 68th District Court in Flint, and most recently as the Court Administrator of the 55th District Court in Ingham County. He has also served as a consultant for the State Court Administrative Office and is a Graduate Fellow of the Institute for Court Management of the National Center for State Courts.

Ramsey will begin his new job on January 10, 1994.

Attorney To Advise City on Conflict of Interest

After several angry residents called for Councilman Noah "Pete" Bergeron to abstain from voting on all issues pertaining to the Environmental Disposal Systems, Inc. (EDS) deep injection well – claiming that Bergeron, whose father-in-law (John Ryznar) owns the property, has a conflict of interest – City attorney Barry Seifman was asked to render a legal opinion on the issue.

Seifman, who refused to be pressured into an immediate response, explained that he will need time to research the issue because his opinion, when given, will not be limited to Bergeron's possible conflict; rather, it will be broad enough to cover similar situations which may arise in the future. □

Representative Pitoniak Coordinates Stocking Donations to Romulus Goodfellows

State Representative Greg Pitoniak (D-Taylor, Romulus) joined with the Michigan Distributors and Vendors Association and Romulus Mayor Beverly McAnally to provide Christmas stockings for the Romulus Goodfellows' annual "No Child Without a Christmas" program. This program provides Christmas meals and toys to low-income families in Romulus. Last year, the Romulus Goodfellows delivered over 1,300 toys and over 400 meals.

Pitoniak said he felt privileged to have an opportunity to be involved in this project.

"As the father of young children, I know how important it is to ensure that your family has a memorable Christmas. This Christmas-stocking project has allowed me to reach out beyond my own family this holiday season and help others who are less fortunate."

As part of this joint effort, the Michigan Distributors and Vendors Association worked together with various Michigan legislators to deliver Christmas stockings filled with candy to over 7,000 Michigan children this holiday season.

During the month of November, members of the Michigan legislature were invited to nominate a charity, hospital, or charity in their district to receive Christmas stockings from the Association. The stockings were delivered to the various hospitals, shelters, and charities in early December to ensure delivery to the children by Christmas.

According to Candace Super, CEO of the Michigan Distributors and Vendors Association, "The program targeted groups with children who would have otherwise gone without a gift this Christmas. We were very pleased with the response both from the legislature and the communities in working together on this project."



Representative Gregory Pitoniak (center) presents stocking donation to Romulus Fire Marshal David Allison (left) and Mayor Beverly McAnally, who accepted the gift on behalf of the Romulus Goodfellows.

The Michigan Distributors and Vendors Association is a Lansing-based State association representing wholesale distributors of candy, tobacco, and grocery

products. They also represent members of the vending industry. They supply convenience stores, grocery stores, chain stores, and gas stations. □

Ford Appoints Gear to Another Year on Service Academy Nomination Committee

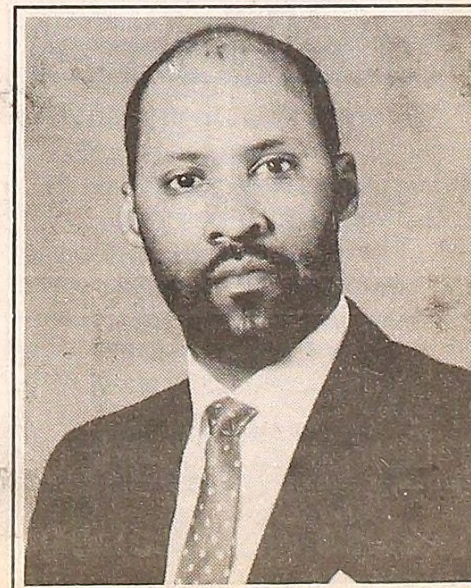
U.S. Congressman William D. Ford (D-Ypsilanti) has appointed 14 citizens from the 13th Congressional District to a panel that will nominate candidates for admission to the United States service academies.

The group includes committee veterans Randy Gear of Romulus, Sue Shaw of Ypsilanti, Peter Darrow and Bob Galardi of Ann Arbor, Jack Goodfellow of Salem Township, Jim Petrie of Northville, David Madrid of Westland, and David Alexander of Inkster.

Joining the committee this year are Joyce Willis and Jake Dingeldey of Can-

ton, Mary Louise Foley and Ruth Moorman of Ypsilanti, Pete Foster of Belleville, and Tom Kelly of Wayne.

The committee will interview residents of the 13th District who are applying for admission to the U.S. Military Academy, Naval Academy, Air Force Academy, and Coast Guard Academy for fall 1994. Subcommittees will interview and evaluate each of the applicants. Then, after comparing the applicants with the academies' admission standards, the committee will pass names on to Ford, who will submit the lists to the appropriate academy. □



In Our Opinion ...

Just the Facts, Ma'am

By Evelyn Atkins and Kristi Stephens

It's only natural that a proposal for the disposal of hazardous wastes in a particular community would become a matter of public interest. People are concerned for their own health and well-being – and, even more so, for that of their children. Since the average citizen is not an expert on the subject of waste disposal, his/her first instinct is often to view such a proposal with caution, even fear, because he/she is unsure of its safety. Emotions may run high as a result.

But it sometimes happens that a closer look into such an issue not only negates our initial concerns, but brings to light actual benefits, as well. This is the case, we believe, with the commercial Class I hazardous-waste injection well which Environmental Disposal Services, Inc. (EDS) has constructed in Romulus, and which – unless the City is successful in its lawsuit against EDS – will begin operation in the spring of 1994.

Although groups such as RECAP (Romulus Environmentalists Care About People) have been very vocal in their opposition to the well, most of their assertions have been, at best, misconceptions based on fear-inspired rumors (such as the belief that residents whose property is located near the well would have to disclose that fact to potential buyers if they attempted to sell their property in the future). At worst, they have been unsubstantiated allegations (for example, the vicious – but undocumented – gossip about shady deals involving Councilman Pete Bergeron, whose father-in-law owned part of the property now used by EDS) and downright untruths (such as statements claiming that hazardous-waste wells are banned in Canada and throughout Europe).

But *responsible* decisions about issues of such grave import cannot be made on the basis of rumors; we need reliable information from the people who *are* experts in the field. As the character of Jack Webb on the old *Dragnet* series used to say, when dealing with a well-meaning but hysterical witness who had

a tendency to digress from the issues relevant to a case: "Just the facts, ma'am."

The fact is – and, believe me, we have spent a great deal of time checking into this – we can't find a *single instance* where EDS has not followed the rigorous permitting process established by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and United States Environmental Protection Agency. Even State Representative Gregory Pitoniak, whose concerns about liquid industrial wastes have led him to submit a bill request to ban commercial hazardous waste wells in Michigan, has found no instance where EDS has not followed State and Federal guidelines: "I am pleased that plans for this injection well have been dealt with in a responsible and carefully planned manner," he told *The Romulus News*.

The location, construction, and operation of hazardous-waste wells is a matter governed not by local government bodies, but by State and Federal agencies. The reason for such municipal preemption is simple: While most people are realistic enough to admit the need for such facilities, almost no one wants one in his own backyard. The City is trying to halt the well's operation by saying that the site is not properly zoned for such a facility, but the overwhelming majority of the sources we have consulted state, over and over again, that local zoning simply is not relevant in this case because the State and Federal regulations supersede local ordinances.

It is for this reason that we would like to see the City of Romulus drop its lawsuit against EDS. Already, \$100,000 of City funds have been diverted from other parts of the budget to cover costs related to the case, and Mayor Beverly McAnally admits it is extremely unlikely that this sum will be sufficient to cover all costs incurred. It is our belief – and the belief of many other residents, as well – that gambling such a large sum of taxpayer dollars is unwise, considering the slim chance of winning. Even City attorney Barry Seifman was – in a December 19,

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Business Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

The Romulus News (also known as "the little paper") is published biweekly by Nite-Lite Graphics, P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038.

Nite-Lite Graphics and *The Romulus News* are owned and operated by Evelyn H. Atkins, and Evelyn H. Atkins is also the Editor of the aforementioned publication.

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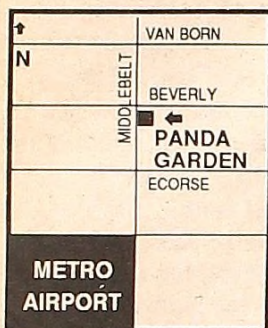
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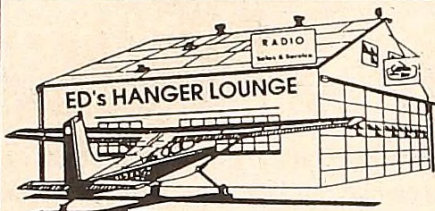
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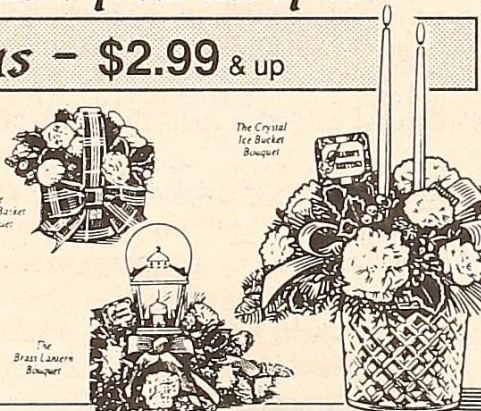
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Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: All letters to the editor must contain the writer's signature and a telephone number where he/she can be reached in order to verify the letter's authenticity. Names will be withheld by request if, in our opinion, the letter's content merits anonymity.

The Romulus News reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and, if necessary, brevity.

Resident Comments on New AIDS Campaign

Letter To The Editor:

The recent decision to unveil a National AIDS ad campaign for young people to encourage condom use is very disappointing and revealing. Health experts say the ads mark a new "era" of frankness in AIDS prevention programs. Guess what? The word "era" was misspelled; it should be "error" because this decision is a terrible mistake.

Apparently, it is the adults who need the education. Condoms don't prevent AIDS! "Condoms condone! Abstinence avoids!" It's time for this country to accept the truth, like it or not. The attitudes of certain health experts suggest to the young that they can keep playing without paying, act without consequences, and do what they "feel" — even if it is immoral. How misleading, untruthful, and damaging to our youth! This decision, if left unchallenged, can only have detrimental repercussions, as the future will attest to.

"Health experts" should start utilizing that part of their body above their waistline (aka "wasteline"), even their brains, to make wise decisions. Hasn't it occurred to anyone that the cure for AIDS is even suggested in its name? A=Acknowledge I=Iniquities; D=Depart from S=Sin. It's that simple.

America, in order to find a solution to a problem, one must first realize what the problem is and be willing to admit to it. Stop lying against the truth! It's time for honesty in this country. We've seen enough avoidance, recklessness, immorality, and irresponsibility. Grow up!

Sonda Stepchuck

Realtor Writes Mayor About Well's Effect

Dear Mayor McNally:

The City of Romulus is a community on the move. The theme of "Gateway to the World" is evident through the various development projects currently underway, such as the Beverly Estates and other new construction of homes throughout the City. Our office receives inquiries on a regular basis regarding existing residential, business, and industrial properties as well as development opportunities in the Romulus area.

We can all agree that:

- Romulus holds real growth and development possibilities;
- residential, commercial, and industrial development is continuing based partly on opportunities surrounding Metro Airport;

- the properties south of downtown and in-between I-275 and the Airport are one of the last undeveloped bastions in the City limits, and offer outstanding opportunities for continued commercial and industrial development.

We have reviewed EDS' plans for development of its deepwell facility in Romulus and believe that it will be a positive contribution to the development of this area and will not cause a reduction in residential property values. This project can act as a magnet to attract other industry to this area, thereby increasing the city's tax base and offering job opportunities for local residents.

Sincerely,

Ernestine Williams, realtor/owner
 Red Carpet Keim/Will Cooperate,
 Inc. Real Estate

Member, Western Wayne & Oakland
 County Association of Realtors

Engineering Firm Replies to Mayor's Remarks

Dear Mayor McNally:

The purpose of this letter is to respond to your comment in the November 27, 1993, issue of the *Detroit Free Press*. We read with some concern that you were quoted as saying, "It does not please me to think it might come up in Van Buren, Inkster, or anywhere else" in reference to the injection of fluids into the EDS (Environmental Disposal Systems, Inc.) well. Since this comment may be based on some misunderstanding, we would like to take this opportunity to further explain some facts regarding the EDS Class I deepwell project.

There has never been an instance of surface or drinking-water contamination due to operation of a Class I disposal well constructed and operated according to current USEPA (United States Environmental Protection Agency) standards. Because these rigorous siting and construction requirements have been followed during the drilling and completion of the EDS disposal well, there is no basis for fear that waste will "come up" in Romulus or any other surrounding communities.

Petrotek Engineering Corporation provided well construction and testing services during the installation of EDS Well #1-20. Based on this involvement and our deepwell experience, the data collected strongly indicate that operation of the EDS well according to strict USEPA requirements will be protective of human health and the environment. As you are aware, more than four thousand feet of layered rock are present between the surface and the permitted EDS injection formation. The rocks below approximately 100 feet contain natural brine water. The salinity of these fluids increases with depth. Many alternating layers of very tight rock are present in the subsurface which have isolated these brine fluids from each other and the surface over many millions of years. The

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Department of Geology
Michigan Basin Core Analysis Laboratory



Kalamazoo, Michigan 49008-5150
616 387-8633

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

December 13, 1993

Honorable Beverly McAnally
Mayor, City of Romulus
11111 Wayne Road
Romulus, Michigan 48174

Dear McAnally,

I feel compelled to write to you regarding Environmental Disposal Systems Well 1-20: the new deep injection well for hazardous wastewater disposal sited in Romulus.

I have been a Michigan resident for over 20 years and feel very strongly that protection of our quality environment in Michigan should be a priority. Rational thought and planning, coupled with innovative technology and resource utilization, can be our best ally in the pursuit of environmental protection.

My position as Professor of Geology and Director of the Michigan Basin Core Research Laboratory gives me a broad perspective and extensive database to analyze and interpret Michigan's geology and resources. As director of the Core Laboratory, I have participated in and supervised numerous studies of Michigan geology, including a statewide assessment of the "Basal Sandstone" Mt. Simon Formation as a potential unit for wastewater injection and confinement. This is the rock strata involved in the well in Romulus. This assessment was part of a four-state, north-central region study commissioned by the Underground Injection Practices Council and funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The report of this study, published in 1989, is entitled "*Hydrogeologic and Hydrochemical Assessment of the Basal Sandstone and overlying Paleozoic Age Units for Wastewater Injection and Confinement in the North Central Region.*" In the preface of this document, the Underground Injection Practices Council states that "The practice of deep well disposal of liquid waste has been, is currently, and will likely remain, an important part of the overall solution to proper disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes. In that light, this report should serve as a valuable tool for persons concerned with the placement and use of deep well disposal systems."

This report is available from the Groundwater Protection Council in Oklahoma. Seventy-seven wells were used in this study, including six from Wayne County. I have also examined all the geologic data from the Romulus well and find it to be consistent with our previous study.

I have followed the community and media debate about this facility since I attended a public information session at the Romulus High School in October. I must say that I am shocked by the misinformation and incorrect statements that permeate this debate. Several published media articles have quoted scientists, like Dr. Arnold Bouma of Louisiana State University and Dr. Donald Stierman of the University of Toledo, with seemingly valid comments that use innuendo and generalization to cast doubt on the safety of a well like the Romulus project. If you examine the credentials of these reputable scientists you will find that they do not have any experience in Michigan geology or the specifics of underground injection wells in the region. I would consider their comments irrelevant to the issues of Michigan. It is also distressing that emotional responses based on false concepts are influencing public opinion. Because of the recent public concern for the safety of this well and your responsibility as a civic leader, I am sure that you want to be well informed on the scientific issues about this disposal well.

Several important questions need to be asked by anyone purporting to make an informed judgment about the safety of underground injection technology, in general, and the Romulus well, in particular.

1. *Does the operating company have a corporate history of reliable and responsible operation of similar facilities? Do they have the technical expertise necessary to do the job properly?* This can be easily determined from records kept by state and federal permitting agencies. New permits are not issued to irresponsible companies. To my knowledge, Environmental Disposal Systems and their personnel bring many years of responsible and innovative experience in Michigan and other areas to the Romulus project.

2. *Are the geologic conditions proper for the type of installation being developed? Can the waste be effectively confined to the injection layer? Is the region prone to earthquakes or other natural disasters that might put the injection well at risk?* The Underground Injection Practices Council report cited above carefully addressed these questions. I have enclosed a copy of the conclusions of this report for your information. It indicates that southern Michigan has excellent geologic formations to receive and contain liquid wastes. The injection formation is thousands of feet below the thin, near-surface, drinking water aquifer. The risk of earthquakes has been examined and is extremely low to non-existent in southern Michigan. The suggestion by Professor Stierman (University of Toledo) that fluid injection into the Romulus well might trigger local earthquakes like those in Rangely, Colorado, is not realistic. The geology in Colorado is vastly different than Michigan. The Rangely area contains regionally stressed, highly fractured granite that had a long earthquake history prior to wastewater injection. Michigan's rocks are not under those types of stresses and contain almost no fractures. Breaking strength tests have been performed on various Michigan strata and suggest that forces much higher than the proposed injection pressures would be necessary to rupture the rocks.

It is my fervent hope that rational and measured thought go into every decision that we make. This can only be achieved by education and a conscious effort to avoid emotional responses that cloud our judgment. It is also important that hidden agendas not be promulgated in the guise of public good. I teach my students to acquire all the relevant facts, ignore the irrelevant ones, and form a logical opinion. I would be happy to provide you with any additional information so that you and the citizens of Romulus can make the best decision about the deep disposal well. I hope that you do not let a small, vocal, uninformed minority dictate decisions that may not represent the best interests of the entire community. Thank you for your time in reading this letter.

Sincerely,

William B. Harrison, III
Professor and Director
Michigan Basin Core Research Laboratory

Romulus Profile: "Mike" McClellan

By Tom Shamanski

When Donald "Mike" McClellan, the son of divorced parents, graduated from high school in his hometown of Croswell, Michigan, he began working in the tool-and-die trade. Considering this somewhat worldly background, it is not surprising that his life-style included smoking cigarettes and drinking alcohol – and not, as the 45-year-old said recently, "living the Christian way."

All of this changed dramatically, however, when – in 1982 – McClellan accepted the Lord. Currently pastor at Romulus Wesleyan Church (located at 37300 Goddard), the four-year Romulus resident was queried about his new life following his religious conversion.

"A year later," he replied, "I was involved in a discipleship at Croswell Wesleyan Church. It was through this program that my heart was opened to what God wanted me to do. On the last Sunday in December of 1984, the Lord spoke to me and called me into the ministry."

McClellan immediately accepted the Lord's beckoning, and September 1985 found him and his family pulling up long-standing roots and moving to Central, South Carolina. There, McClellan began attending Central Wesleyan College.

Although scholastically rusty from being out of school for 18 years, McClellan graduated from the Christian college in 1989 with a bachelor of arts degree in religion. Soon after, he embarked on a Wesleyan procedure called "candidating." Through this program, McClellan would visit – and conduct services at – various Wesleyan churches in order to discover the particular church that seemed right for him and, conversely, whether he was right for the church of his choice.

"I had 'candidated' at about five churches," said McClellan, "before receiving a phone call from the District Superintendent in Grand Blanc. He asked me to candidate here at Romulus' church."

"Prior to that," he continued, "I had asked the Lord to show me which church to go to by having someone accept Him while I was there at the church – and, during my first sermon, that's exactly what happened here in Romulus."

Later, while driving back to South Carolina to await the Church's decision concerning his acceptability, McClellan told his wife Charlene, "That's the church we're going to!" And, indeed, it was, as he soon received word that the decision of the Romulus church was favorable. Thus, on August 27, 1989, McClellan assumed the pastorate at the Romulus Wesleyan Church.

While instituting a number of programs within the Church, McClellan has seen his congregation grow impressively from 50 members to its current tally of 85.

When asked to outline the Church's diverse activities, McClellan said, "On Sundays, we have an Enrichment Hour for all ages, followed by our actual worship service; on Sunday evenings, we have a Celebration Hour. Additionally, among others, we have programs specifically for children, teens, young adults, and Wesleyan women."

The Pastor then noted that the Church recently initiated a senior-citizen program which is led by Church member Barbara Schultz. McClellan also conducts an open Bible study from 7:15 to 7:45 p.m. each Friday at Romulus' D & R Auto.

"We started doing this at their request," explained McClellan. "At first, it was just for D & R employees, but now it's open to everyone."

Rounding out his brief summary of the Church's doings, McClellan mentioned that the recently formed Drama Club will be presenting its premiere performance – a Christmas play – at the Church on Sunday, December 19, beginning at 6 p.m. The show – free of charge – is open to all, and will be followed by a period for fellowship.

Talking of the events which have given him the most satisfaction during his time in Romulus, McClellan said, "It's been very gratifying to see several people within our congregation being called into the ministry."

"Also," he added, "at this point, our congregation has grown enough that we're ready for expansion of the building. It's all in the talking stage now, although we have been checking on the availability of the park just behind the Church."

Yet another satisfaction, said the Pastor, has been seeing a lot of lives won for the Lord. He then told of a young man who was diagnosed with terminal cancer.

"He accepted the Lord on a Friday night," said McClellan, "and passed away Sunday morning. At the moment of his death, his mother told me that she saw a large number of sea gulls circling slowly overhead. Suddenly, the gulls flew away – except for one. That lone sea gull continued to circle and, finally, flew away to join the rest of the flock."

The one thing that gives McClellan difficulty in his highly charged ministry is "learning to wait on God's time." For example, he said, there are times when he knows that lives are being wonderfully changed by God, and he has an understandably natural desire for wanting the Lord to accomplish these good things quickly, in our human time-frame. But of course, he continued, God's time is not our time, and we must be patient in waiting on the Lord.

Other than the proposed building expansion, McClellan's future plans in-



clude continuing his present ministry and working to stabilize his new programs. Once the programs are firmly established, he will then begin setting up small-group Bible studies as well as various support groups.

Said McClellan, "We wish to become more active in the Romulus community. In fact, I believe that the overall plan for our church is to help the community as much as possible. I feel that it's through these Bible and support groups – once they're running smoothly – that we'll best be able to become more involved within the community."

McClellan's wife Charlene works in the home and is also very active within the Church, heading up one of the youth groups and directing the Church's "Ladies in Faith Together" group. Charlene is, as McClellan cheerfully put it, "my greatest supporter!"

The couple have two adult daughters. Julie, at 22 years of age, is in real estate in South Carolina. Interestingly enough, she graduated from high school the same year that her father graduated from college. Eighteen-year-old Paula is a sophomore at Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion, Indiana. With plans to enter the field of social work after graduation, she is pursuing a double major in social work and psychology.

During his free time, McClellan enjoys playing tennis, and also likes to fish and hunt – but, because of his extremely busy schedule, he hasn't been able to enjoy his hobbies for some time, now.

Together, the McClellans enjoy visit-

ing with family and friends. Except for daughter Julie in South Carolina, all of McClellan's family resides in Croswell.

When asked why he enjoys pastoring Romulus Wesleyan Church, McClellan replied, "My greatest enjoyment as Pastor is being involved with people because of the love God has given me for them."

"Also," he continued, "there's the excitement of our church having the opportunity to become more active in community affairs. This inspires us all, as a church, as well as me, as a pastor."

Then, harking back to the early days of his acceptance of the Lord, McClellan told of the day he quit smoking cigarettes – for good.

"We were on vacation," he said, smiling, "and I was sitting outside smoking when the Lord said to me, 'You don't need those anymore.' Right away, I threw my cigarettes away, and haven't had a desire to smoke since. . . . It was a total healing."

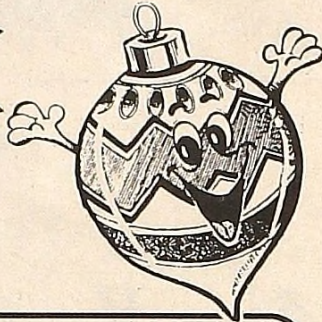
McClellan added that his experience as a former smoker and drinker have given him insight and understanding in ministering to those who are presently having difficulties in their attempts to master similar problems.

As his congregation continues to grow, and as McClellan has definite plans to have the Church become more involved with the community, the residents of Romulus will surely be hearing much more of the Romulus Wesleyan Church and of its pastor, Reverend Donald "Mike" McClellan. □

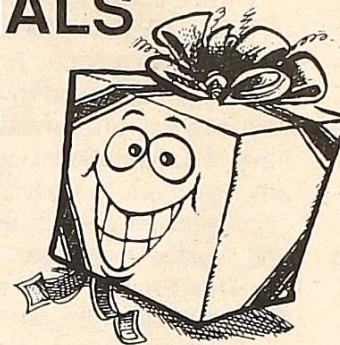
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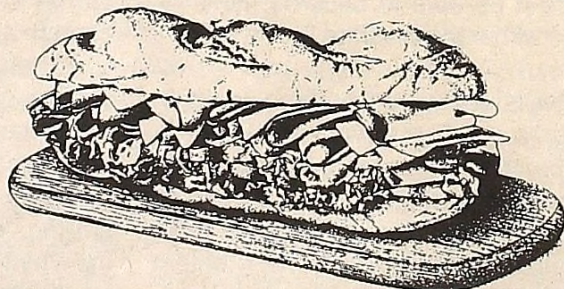
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Old-fashioned Christmas Focused on Family

By Mary E. Clark

For me, during the holidays of my childhood in Kentucky, the spirit of Christmas was truly magic.

My senses became more acute. I had not noticed the smell of wood burning in the kitchen stove before, though it had burned every day. The pungent odor of gingerbread cookies baking filled the room. When did that twinkle come in Father's and Grandfather's eyes? When did the sparkle appear in the eyes of the children? And when did Mother and Grandmother get so busy and so secretive? I never knew that we had such good singers in our midst. Everywhere, there were busy hands, smiling faces, and beautiful Christmas carols being sung with great joy and enthusiasm. The air was laden with love, happiness, and an anticipation of wonder to come.

They say that ignorance is bliss. It could be. We were very poor, but no one told us, so we went about our preparations to celebrate the Holy season in our own way. We did not waste time moaning and groaning about not having the money to buy this or that gift. Instead, we gave what we had and what we could make. A pint of preserves or jam or jelly, a hand-made apron or bonnet, a loaf of home-made bread, a whistle whittled during long evening hours, a fishing pole, and crocheted doilies were some of the many gifts given. But the best gifts of all were love and helping hands.

Our tree was beautiful with its home-made trimming: strings of popcorn, garlands of crepe paper, stars made from tiny pieces of foil saved up all year, crocheted angels and bells, and pinecones. While some trimmed the tree, others would be in the kitchen making candy and cookies.

The children may have spent the cold, cloudy November and December days looking at toys in catalogs and wishing. But, on Christmas morn, that was completely forgotten when a little girl suddenly became mother to the beautiful baby doll that Santa brought her, and a little boy became the owner of a wagon.

No matter how lean the meals may have been all year, there seemed to be

an overabundance of food for Christmas. Every mother and grandmother went about cheerfully planning and cooking and baking. The food at Christmas seemed tastier than any we ate at any other time. It had an extra ingredient in each dish. Somehow, this one ingredient seemed to get spread all over the faces of those moms and grandmoms. What was it? Love!

During the holidays, you would find some — or maybe all — of the following dishes: chicken & dumplings, baked chicken and dressing, baked ham, fried rabbit, potato soup, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, cole slaw, potato salad, deviled eggs, jam, jelly, honey, biscuits, cornbread, pickles (butter, sweet, sour), pickled peaches and beets, a variety of nuts (taken from the trees on our beautiful hills), banana-nut bread, blackberry cobbler, peach cobbler, jam cake, stack cake, custard pie, banana pudding, pumpkin pie, apple pie, cookies, white taffy candy, chocolate fudge, peanut-butter fudge, stick candy, milk, coffee, tea, and eggnog.

Were we poor? I don't think so. For us, Christmas was not measured in dollars and cents, but in love, friendship, and feelings of goodwill.

May your Christmas be filled with the magic of old-fashioned holidays past. □

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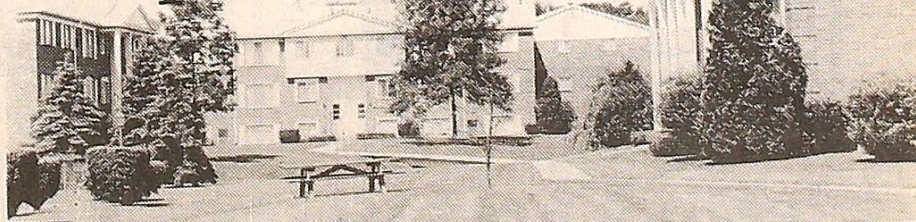
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Sincerely,

Mayor Beverly McAnally

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT BEVERLY McANALLY

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

A basketful of joy to all of our friends, along with our heartfelt thanks.

CITGO

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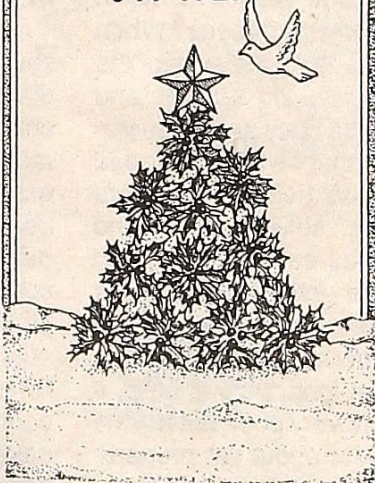


May Peace On Earth Prevail

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May the warmth and wonder of this joyous season embrace you and yours, now and throughout the year. To our loyal friends and customers, thank you for your valued patronage.

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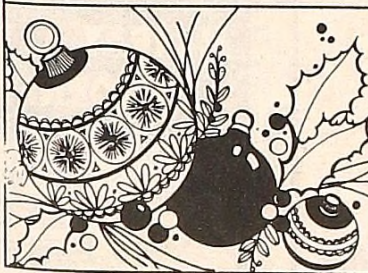
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Deck The Halls!

Hoping your holidays are trimmed with happiness.

Cottage Inn Pizza

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Wishing you a world of good cheer this season.

To all those whose friendship we value so much, go our season's greetings and sincere appreciation for your loyal support and confidence.

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WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

...And thank you for your business.

We're especially pleased and proud to be able to serve you throughout the year. Have a wonderful holiday.

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SEASON'S GREETINGS

A merry, magical, marvelous and melodious Christmas to one and all! Holiday wishes and heartfelt thanks for your continued support.

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Have a Bear-y Merry Christmas!

We're so happy to have you as our customers and friends. Thanks.

J.T. Auto

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JOYOUS NOEL

May the magic and merriment of Christmas be yours.

Kozy Korner Cafe

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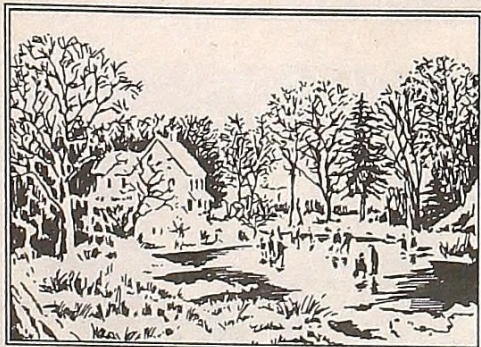
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From all of us, go our deepest thanks to you for being such good customers and friends!

UDDERS

36628 Goddard

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Merry Christmas

Enjoy the beauty and wonder of it all.

Pizza Barn

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May peace and brotherhood ring throughout the land.

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May yours be blessed this holiday season.

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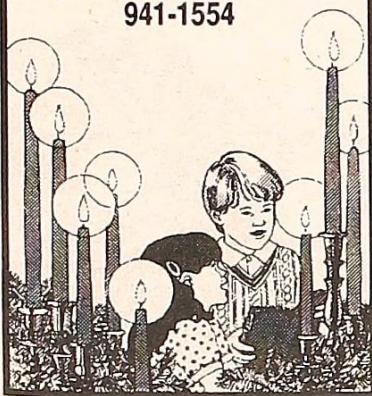
Deck The Halls With Holiday Cheer

Hope yours lasts
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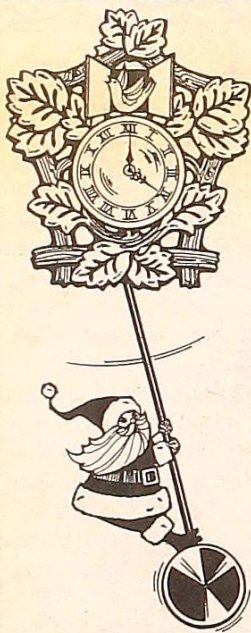
A PARTRIDGE IN A PEAR TREE



May all the gifts
of the season
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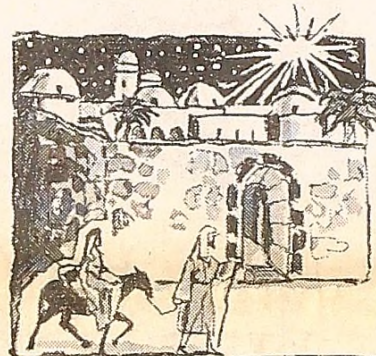
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Dr. K. Sata, D.D.S.
942-0560

Joy Love Faith Peace



May they be yours
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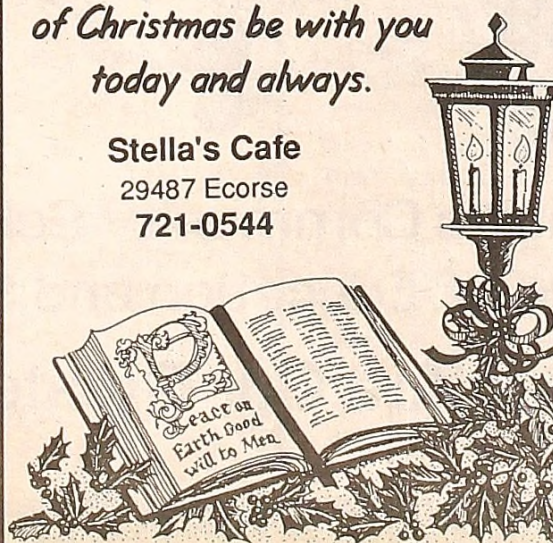
Happy Holidays and sincere best wishes.

Freddy's Store
37590 Huron River Dr.



May the blessings
of Christmas be with you
today and always.

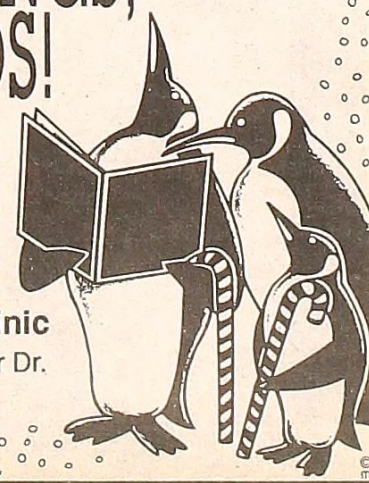
Stella's Cafe
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GREETINGS, FRIENDS!

Our very best wishes
to you and yours
this holiday season.

Huron Auto Clinic
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SEASON'S GREETINGS

In the spirit of peace and joy, we wish each and every one of you
a holiday filled with friendship, love, and contentment.



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Board of Education and Staff

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REGULAR MEETING, NOVEMBER 22, 1993

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held Monday, November 22, 1993, was called to order by President Kesner at 7:30 P.M.

Roll call showed Members Wilkerson, Langley, and King absent (all excused), and Mrs. Hoffman to arrive at 8:00 P.M. All Administrators were present.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Kesner.

Communications and Expressions from the Public:

Several members of the audience discussed topics such as the sports banquet, elementary school grading, second semester layoffs and saving money, TIFA lawsuit status, etc.

Approval of Agenda:

11/93/12 Moved by Berlinn supported by Hoffman the Board approve the Agenda as amended by Dr. Bedell. Ayes: 4. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings:

11/93/13 Moved by Berlinn supported by Hoffman the Board of Education approve the Minutes of November 8, 1993, as presented. Ayes: 4. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Report of the Superintendent:

Personnel Actions

Dr. LeCesne recommended the following Personnel Actions for Board approval:

A. Retirement: Pauline Hargis, Bus Dr., Eff. 12/1/93.

11/93/14 Moved by Berlinn supported by Hoffman the Board approve the Revised Personnel Actions as submitted by Dr. LeCesne. Ayes: 4. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

11/93/15 Moved by Berlinn supported by Hoffman the Board approve the resolution recommending the layoff of six (6) teachers during the second semester of the 1993-1994 school year. Ayes: 4. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Bills for Payment

11/93/16 Moved by Patterson supported by Berlinn the Board approve the Bills for Payment as recommended by Administrator Carr. Ayes: 4. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Change Orders - Barton Malow

11/93/17 Moved by Berlinn supported by Hoffman the Board issue the following change orders:

Acoustic Ceiling, Ann Arbor Roofing, Monte Costella & Co., Empire Tile & Marble Co., Ericson Co., Ferguson Steel Inc., Gee Co., Great Lakes Mechanical, McMurray Electric, Peterson Glass, Prudential Painting, Russell Hardware, Westwood Carpentry, and York International. Ayes: 4. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Josten Software Maintenance Agreement

This item was withdrawn by Superintendent Bedell to be taken up at the next meeting on December 13, 1993.

State Finance Update

There was general discussion of this item.

NJROTC Field Trip

11/93/18 Moved by Berlinn supported by Hoffman the Board authorize NJROTC cadets to attend an orientation visit to the Naval Air Training Station from November 29 to December 2, 1993. Ayes: 4. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

Dr. Bedell discussed the following Items of Interest with Board Members: 1) NJROTC Evaluation - Department of the Navy; 2) Briody/VonDrak Commendation Award; 3) Hurst Article - Cooperative Learning; 4) Congressman Ford Letter - Bedell Appointment; and 5) Barton Malow - Project Manager's Report.

Questions and/or Concerns of Board Members

Member Hoffman: High School indoor track - are there evening hours for adults? (Dr. Bedell to find out.)

Adjournment:

11/93/19 Moved by Hoffman supported by Berlinn the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 4. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Patterson, Acting Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

Local Commentary

Pitoniak Reports on School Funding Reform

(Editor's note: The purpose of the "Local Commentary" column is to provide citizens with an opportunity to express their viewpoint on issues of interest to the people who live and work in Romulus. Views expressed in "Local Commentary" are not necessarily those of "the little paper.")

By State Representative Greg Pitoniak

I welcome the opportunity to provide for my Romulus constituents an update on the most important issue I have faced during my five years in the Michigan House of Representatives. In some respects, to resolve the issue of school finance reform is to reckon with two significant defects in our current dependence upon the property tax to fund public schools: the great tax burden it places on homeowners and the uneven and unfair funding levels it has created in Michigan school districts.

The taxpayers in my House district are clearly taking the brunt of the tax burden in our current system. Though the Statewide average for school operating mills is just over 34 mills, both of the school districts that I represent are levying over 45 mills in order to maintain the spending levels that the local school boards feel are necessary. Consequently, given the opportunity on July 21 of this year to vote for abolishing the property tax - as of July, 1994 - as the primary means for funding Michigan's public schools, I chose to vote yes. It was the most difficult decision I made in my tenure as a Representative because of the inherent risk of abolishing the property tax without first having the needed replacement revenue agreed upon. The decision I made to vote "yes" on Senate Bill 1 (now Public Act 145) was rooted in my experience that the reform of public school finance had to be "forced"; that many years of dedicated effort in the State Capitol to negotiate this issue had proven that achieving consensus was not possible unless we confronted a real and specific deadline.

Since that vote, I have advised all who have commended or chastised me on my decision that more would follow. I have been involved in the "redesign" of Michigan's public school system as a member of the House Democratic Education Task Force and a member of the House Taxation Committee. It has been a hope and goal of mine that the Legislature and Governor would reach agreement by December 31 of this year on the replacement revenues for funding Michigan's public school system. The Michigan House of Representatives has done what is necessary to meet this deadline. On Friday, December 10, the House passed - and sent to the Senate with strong bipartisan support - a comprehensive school finance, funding, and quality-reform package of bills. As of December 15, the Senate had not yet approved the bills, but I am hopeful that



Representative Gregory Pitoniak

they will do so within the next 10 days.

More likely, I believe that the Democratic and Republican legislative leaders from both the House and Senate will meet to negotiate a compromise proposal to be voted upon by both chambers before our self-imposed deadline of January 1, 1994. If we cannot reach agreement by then, negotiations will continue beyond January 1, with the absolute deadline being July 1, 1994, when the property-tax cut takes effect. After January 1, all legislation needing to be effective in the same year (i.e. 1994) will then require a two-thirds vote of both legislative chambers.

I am pleased that the Michigan House of Representatives has taken a leadership role in designing a bipartisan legislative package that will bring greater fairness to Michigan's tax system and school funding formula, as well as induce meaningful changes to improve education quality. I will remain dedicated to achieving a final resolution on this important issue in a timely fashion.

If you are interested in obtaining more information on the House Bipartisan School Reform Plan, please contact my office at (517) 373-0852. □

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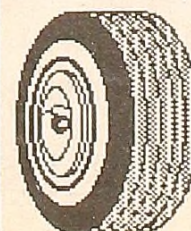
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It's a funny thing about some people. They form swift and strong opinions, but if you ask them why, they don't have real reasons.

Here in Romulus, some people have convinced themselves that the deep disposal well being built by Environmental Disposal Systems may not be safe. They base that opinion on a vague sense of uneasiness over waste disposal, not on factual information.

We at EDS think the people of Romulus should have the facts before making up their minds.

- Like the fact that there has never been a single incident of contamination from such a well in 25 years of deep well disposal at sites throughout Michigan.
- Or the fact that deep well disposal is the safest, cost-effective option available for industrial liquid and hazardous waste disposal.
- And the fact that the well is nearly one mile below the earth's surface, beneath several impermeable rock formations, at a location identified by geologists and supported by a study performed by the University of Michigan.
- And the fact that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Michigan Department of Natural Resources have approved the project.

There are a lot more facts that our professional staff and geologists would like to share with you. We are manning an information line every business day to hear your questions and to give you accurate, direct answers.

EDS is committed to being a good neighbor and corporate citizen in Romulus. Before you make up your mind about our project, please hear the facts. Ask us about anything of concern to you.

Let's talk.

Sincerely,

The owners, managers and employees of
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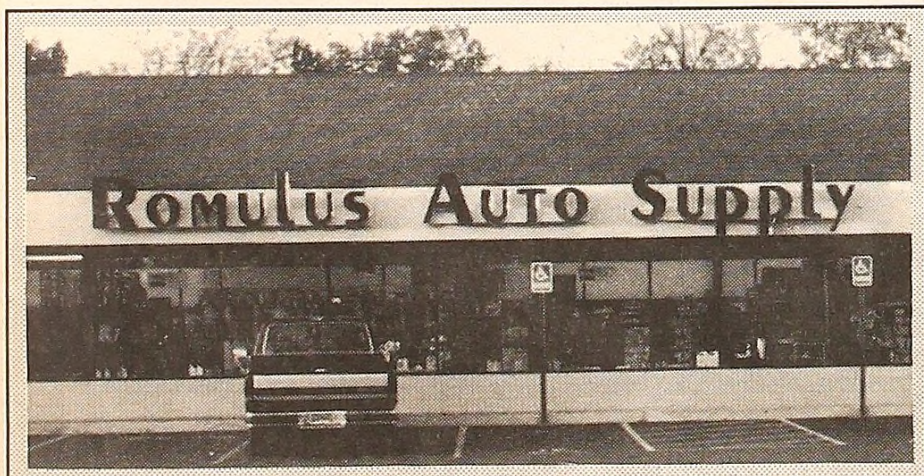
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Community Calendar

- **Romulus Wesleyan Church Christmas Play** – The Romulus Wesleyan Church (37300 Goddard at Five Points) has invited the community to attend its recently formed drama club's premiere performance – a Christmas play – on Sunday, December 19, at 6 p.m. A period of fellowship will follow the performance. There is no charge to attend.
- **Letters to Santa** – Again this year, the Romulus Civic League – a community block organization – will sponsor "Letters to Santa." Children who write to Santa and drop their letter at the special mailbox located at City Hall (11111 Wayne Road at Goddard) will receive a letter in return. Children's letters must contain a return address.
- **Romulus Firefighters New Year's Eve Party** – Enjoy dinner, entertainment provided by Jon Ray of WHND-WCSX Radio, beer, set-ups, a champagne toast, and door prizes at the Romulus Firefighters Annual New Year's Eve Party, to be held on Friday, December 31, at the Romulus Progressive Club. Tickets for the event, which begins at 7 p.m., are \$50 couple/\$30 single, and are available by calling Jim Poet of the Fire Department at 941-8585.
- **Youth Workshop** – Huron Civic Theatre will host ACT UP! – a theatre art workshop for children ages seven to 17. The program will be a 16-session series to be held Saturday afternoons from 1 to 5 p.m. beginning January 8, 1994. The program will conclude with an original production staged by ACT UP! students (working title: "Tomfoolery Follies"), scheduled for May 14 and 15, 1994. For further information, please contact instructor Belinda Sidebottom (675-6183).
- **"Pasta Passion" Workshops** – Did you know that, in Italy, there are almost 2,000 words associated with pasta? If pasta is your passion, join Weight Watchers food advisors for free cooking demonstrations at Meijer during the month of January. Sample and learn to prepare Spinach Fettuccine and Vegetables, Pasta Primavera, or Cheesy Macaroni Bake at one of the following demonstration events: Sterling Heights Meijer (36600 Van Dyke) on Friday, January 14, from 12 to 1:30 p.m.; Burton Meijer (2333 S. Center) on Saturday, January 15, from 12 to 1:30 p.m.; Westland Meijer (37201 Warren Road) on Saturday, January 15, from 1 to 2:30 p.m.; Taylor Meijer (14640 Pardee Road) on Saturday, January 15, from 5:30 to 7 p.m.; Flint Meijer (G-433 W. Pierson) on Friday, January 21, from 12 to 1:30 p.m.; Woodhaven Meijer (22600 Allen Road) on Friday, January 21, from 12 to 1:30 p.m.; Commerce Meijer (1703 Haggerty Road) on Friday, January 21, from 5:30 to 7 p.m.; Roseville Meijer (30800 Little Mack) on Friday, January 28, from 12 to 1:30 p.m.; Flint Meijer (2474 W. Hill Road) on Friday, January 28, from 5:30 to 7 p.m.; and Rochester Hills Meijer (3175 Rochester Road) on Monday, January 31, from 12 to 1:30 p.m. Each event is open to the public and offers free samples and recipes. If you would like to obtain further information, please call the Weight Watchers Group, Inc., at 1-800-487-4777.
- **Mentors Sought** – The Community Commission on Drug Abuse (CCODA), a community prevention agency, is looking for mentors to help support, educate, and nurture pregnant and parenting teens in western Wayne County. Training is on-going. For information, call Gail at 313-513-7598.

To place information in the Community Calendar, mail it to
"the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038;
FAX it to us at 941-4874; or call 941-1907 or 941-3113

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IN OUR OPINION

continued from page 2

1990 letter to Romulus Building Department director David Paul — less than positive about the City's chances of disputing the well's location in Romulus, stating, "... we are of the opinion that the current status of state law appears to preempt any local regulation of all hazardous waste."

But just as important as the fact that EDS has, in our opinion, satisfactorily established its legal right to be here, is the fact that the operation of this well could be of benefit to our community in a couple of ways.

The first of these benefits — financial — is not limited to the five-percent "royalty" which EDS has proposed paying to the City on an annual basis... although, in these lean economic times, the estimated \$500,000 per year which the City could reap is certainly not a figure to be sneezed at. It should be noted that the availability of cheap, convenient disposal for waste by-products could be a positive factor in drawing future industry to Romulus, as well.

But more important is the benefit which the EDS facility could have on our environment. Romulus residents have long suffered from the illegal dumping of toxins onto our land and into our ditches. The fact that the EDS well would offer the Airport and Local industry an alternative to polluting our land and water was the chief reason that Dave Atkins, the founder of this paper, did not oppose the well project when it was first discussed back in 1990 — and why we continue to see it as a potential benefit today.

Modern man is just now beginning to cope with the fact that one of the serious drawbacks to his high-tech life-style is the hazardous waste that it generates. The more naive residents of Romulus may believe that preventing EDS from operating its hazardous-waste injection well in our city will mean that such wastes will no longer be a danger to us — but we're betting that most people are realistic enough to see that these wastes travel our roads and rails every day, and that we may as well do our best to deal with a problem that won't just go away. □

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

continued from page 3

USEPA enforces strict regulations to prevent any damage to these natural rock seals during well operation.

Another significant concern regarding migration of injected fluids out of a permitted disposal formation is the presence of abandoned wells. Regulations require a demonstration that any wells which penetrate to the disposal zone (approximately 4,000 feet deep) within two miles of a Class I facility are properly plugged. There are no wells within five miles of the EDS facility that penetrate into the disposal formation. If a deepwell is sited, constructed, and operated according to the strict regulations now enforced by the USEPA, it is not possible for waste to endanger drinking water or the surface environment after it has been injected. It can be demonstrated through the use of worst-case scenarios and conservative calculations that, even after 10,000 years, the waste will not endanger the environment.

The deepwell industry does not "inject and hope that nothing happens" as stated in the recent article. To the contrary, State agencies and the USEPA impose strict requirements on both well construction and operation. Operators are required to monitor injection activities at all times during closely controlled disposal operations. Continuous recordings of pressure and volume are reported to regulatory agencies on a quarterly and yearly basis. Any potentially

significant problems can trigger an immediate automatic shut-down of the well. According to law, any problems must be promptly reported to regulators. Periodic testing, witnessed by the USEPA, is also required to confirm safe operation. After injection ceases, monitoring is typically required to ensure that no potential exists for the waste to escape. It is important to note that, after a time equivalent to the lifetime of active injection, there is almost no residual force left in the subsurface to cause the injected waste to "come back" to the surface. Injected fluids mix with the naturally salty brine and will tend to sit in the disposal formation much like the natural brines which have been trapped in the deep subsurface for millions of years.

It is important that government officials and the public have access to the facts regarding injection wells so that opinions are not formed on a basis of emotion, innuendo, or misunderstanding. Please feel free to contact Petrotek at any time if we can provide you with additional information regarding deepwell injection. We look forward to assisting you in any way possible.

Sincerely,
 Kenneth J. Cooper, manager
 Injection Well Projects
 and
 Richard R. Lyle, P.E., manager
 Field Operations
 Petrotek Engineering Corporation □

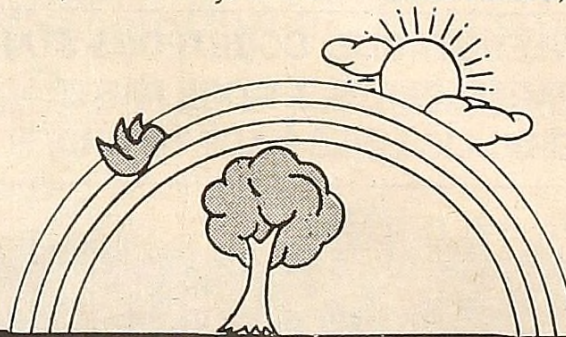
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